

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment further to the Request for Continued Examination filed on February 2, 2011. This paper corrects certain language informalities and is believed to avoid a notice of noncompliant amendment.

Claim Amendments

Claim 26 is changed by underlining the newly introduced subscripted symbol T_{license} . Likewise, Claim 27 is amended by underlining the newly introduced subscripted symbol T_{access} . No new matter is added as a result. Examiner is respectfully requested to review and enter the amendment.

Claim 32 is amended to remove certain language believed to be unnecessary in view of the recitation of the term “computer system”. The language “configured to [do something]” is amended to recite “capable of [doing something]”. These language corrections do not add new matter. Examiner is respectfully requested to review and enter the amendment.

Claims 33 and 34 are also amended to recite that restricting access to the copyright-protected digital item to N simultaneous accesses. No new matter is thereby added.

Claim 35 is amended to change “amount of time” to “time during which--”, and to qualify that the digital item was “copyright-protected”. This change does not add new matter.

Claims 37-39 are amended to remove the recitation of “the second party” from the claim language. This does not add new matter to the application.

Claims 39-42 are amended to recite a “formatter” instead of a “formatting device”. The former language is used in the Specification at page 8, lines 1-22 & page 35 line 20 through page 36, line 22. Therefore this change does not add new matter. Examiner is respectfully requested to review and enter the amendment.

Fee Computation

A new fee computation sheet is attached. There are a total of 21 claims including 5 independent claims in this application. No payment is believed necessary for this amendment.

Respectfully Submitted,

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